

12

MS#158494.1 (MSFT 4935)
PATENT**REMARKS**

Applicants have thoroughly considered the Examiner's remarks in the July 15, 2004 Office action. Applicants respectively acknowledge the Examiner's notification of the allowable subject matter in claims 11 and 32. The specification has been amended by the Amendment A to correct minor typographical errors. Claims 1, 9, 22, and 30 have been amended and claims 8, 10, 11, 29, 31, 32 and 39-42 have been canceled by this Amendment A. Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

With respect to the allowable subject matter, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 22 to include the subject matter of claims 11 and 32, respectively, incorporating all limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. The remaining amended and original claims depend from either claim 1 or claim 22 and, thus, are allowable for at least the same reasons as the claims from which they depend.

For the reasons noted above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-7, 9, 12-28, 30, and 33-38 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application. Although the prior art made of record and not relied upon may be considered pertinent to the disclosure, none of these references anticipates or makes obvious the recited invention.

The fact that Applicants may not have specifically traversed any particular assertion by the Office should not be construed as indicating Applicants' agreement therewith.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or overpayment of any required fee during the entire pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert M. Bain, Reg. No. 36,736
SENNIGER POWERS
One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

RMB/ATY/